

The Passing Of Romance

By W. Crawford Sherlock

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"John, I think it is just dreadful."

"What is that, Mary?" Mr. Atkins laid down his paper with an ill-suppressed sigh and turned to his wife, who was busily sewing on the opposite side of the table.

"There you are again, John," returned Mrs. Atkins impatiently. "Frowning like a thunder cloud just because I dared to interrupt your reading that evening paper. It's always the same thing. You have become as settled in your ways as if you were sixty. Now, I think it is dreadful to let ourselves get that way when we've only been married fifteen years."

"What would you suggest, dear?" asked her husband, feeling that the only possible hope he had of resuming his paper lay in mild methods. "I have been under the impression that we were rather a model couple."

"Why, we've lost all the romance of life," retorted his wife. "When we first met, and even after we were married, we used to take nice long walks and drives or go to the theater often. Now we don't do anything but sit around in the evenings, you reading your paper and I sewing until bedtime. It is not right."

Mr. Atkins did not reply, neither did he resume his paper. His wife's remarks had awakened memories of pleasant days of long ago, yet, pleasant as those days had been, the present life suited him better. He loved his home. To him it was the oasis where he could come after a strenuous day in the desert of business life. The quiet smoke and the evening paper after supper, when the children were snug in bed, were sources of keen enjoyment. Being a just man, however, he began to consider the other side of the question. His wife had strenuous days, too, in the home, yet evenings brought no change to her, as it did to him. No wonder she yearned for the romance of former days. She must have some relief from the dull monotony of home life, and he resolved to see to it.

Accordingly the next morning Mr. Atkins purchased tickets for the night performance at the theater. Mrs. Atkins just bubbled over with joy at the



SEE CLUNG TO HER HUSBAND'S ARM AS THEY WALKED DOWN THE STREET.

prospect and became quite girlish as she prepared for the unusual occasion. She clung to her husband's arm as they walked down the street and nestled close to him in the car. The fifteen years of married life were forgotten. The four little Atkinses, slumbering peacefully at home, faded away for the first time in their short lives from their mother's thoughts. Once again was a blushing girl seated by her lover's side.

The first act of the play was finished and Mrs. Atkins still dreamed. Then a horrible thought forced itself upon her. In her hurry to dress she had forgotten to give Tommy his medicine. The boy had been sick, and the doctor had told her on no account to fail to give the usual dose at night. This was enough. A crowd of thoughts of household cares surged upon her mind. Was little Mary covered up or had she thrown her covers off and the careless nurse failed to replace them? Had she placed the dough in a warm spot so that it would be light enough in the morning to bake? Had the butcher brought the meat for breakfast and the grocer sent the coffee? She could not remember anything pertaining to her home; she had been so hurried in preparing for the theater.

Romance fled for the time being at least. Mrs. Atkins became once more the mother and the housewife. Upon the plea of a headache she whispered her wish to return home, and her husband, weary of the play and hungry for his cigar and a glance at the evening paper, willingly accompanied her.

The following afternoon, in pursuance of his plan, Mr. Atkins hired a horse and buggy to take his wife out for a drive. Mrs. Atkins, having been previously advised of the arrangement, had so provided for her household duties and the care of the children that no perturbation of mind could possibly arise on those scores. With a buoyant heart she got into the buggy and they drove to the park. Mrs. Atkins felt that nothing could possibly

mar the enjoyment of this occasion, but she again reckoned without her host. Time, those fifteen years, had changed her from a slender girl to a rather stout woman, and John had likewise developed into a very corpulent person.

The seat of the buggy was too small for the full enjoyment of the trip. Indeed, it soon became simply torture to Mrs. Atkins as they jolted over some rough places.

"John, I can't stand this any longer," she groaned as the buggy went over a boulder lying in the road on her husband's side, and his weight pressed her against the side bar of the vehicle so forcibly that she felt sure her hip was dislocated.

"It's pretty rough," assented Mr. Atkins, who was equally as uncomfortable. "Let me slip back, and you sit on the edge of the seat. That'll give us more room."

This arrangement did fairly well for a time until Mrs. Atkins, sitting bolt upright, without any support for her back, began to feel the effects of her strained position. Her husband, thinking only of the days of long ago, placed his disengaged arm around her waist to support her, but his wife decidedly objected.

"It is broad daylight, John," she murmured. "What would people think if they saw us driving in the park in such a way? You forget we are old married people."

"That's what I thought you wanted to forget, Mary," observed her husband, rather relishing the turn affairs had taken.

"So I do," returned Mrs. Atkins severely, "but you know I never allowed you to put your arm around me when any one was present. I think we had better go home."

As they turned into the road that led homeward they noticed a mass of dark clouds that had gathered in the west. Mr. Atkins applied the whip freely, but the liveryman had selected a horse suitable for the use of a middle aged couple, and all the efforts at fast driving were in vain. The big drops began to fall, and then the storm broke in all its fury. They were a mile away from shelter, and Mrs. Atkins would not let her husband drive beneath the overhanging branches of a tree for fear of lightning. The rubber laprobe and the side and back curtains had been forgotten by the man who harnessed up the team. The result was unpleasant. A limp, disconsolate couple alighted at the Atkins home just as the storm broke and the sun streamed forth again.

"Mary," said Mr. Atkins the next morning at the breakfast table, "we've tried the theater and the driving, but they didn't seem to bring as keen enjoyment as they did in years past. This evening we'll take a nice, long walk and see how that works."

"Indeed we won't," declared his wife stifling a groan as a twinge of rheumatism made its presence known. "I've had enough, thank you, and, in future, intend to conduct myself as a woman of forty should do. No more playing I'm young and giddy again for me."

"Thank God," returned Mr. Atkins, fervently and piously.

"I'm pretty stiff myself from that ducking I got last night, but I was determined to get romantic again if I could."

Accepted.

Collector—Are you going to pay this bill within the next few days or never?

Debtor—Well, it's mighty nice of you to give me my choice, old man. I'll make it never.—Cleveland Leader.

Strong.

Stillmug—There is as much strength in an egg as in a pound of meat.

Gotabug—I should say so. I've smelled eggs that had more strength than a hundred pounds of beef.—Pittsburg Gazette.

His Enjoyment.

"Do you feel benefited by mingling in fashionable society?"

"In a way," answered Mr. Cumrox. "It makes me appreciate my home."—Washington Star.

WOOD YARDS.

DRY MILL WOOD.

ALL KINDS OF WOOD—BOX WOOD from Humes Mill a specialty. Ben Ekoon. Tel. Black 2436. 1828 38th street.

WOOD! WOOD! WOOD!

Cord wood, mill wood, box wood, any kind of wood at lowest prices. Kelly, the transfer man. Phone 2191 Main, Barn on Twelfth, opposite opera house.

BAMBOO FURNITURE

PAPER RACKS.

TABLES.

STANDS.

CHAIRS.

ETC.

HAND MADE, ELEGANTLY

FINISHED.

Yokohama Bazaar

626 Commercial Street, Astoria

THE MORNING ASTORIAN QUICK RETURN COLUMNS

The supplying of any want that may arise in domestic or commercial life may be readily and quickly accomplished at a nominal cost by the publication of the want in the "Want Ad." columns of the Morning Astorian.

A necessity which may arise for buying or selling horses, carriages, furniture, pianos, real estate, sewing machines, bicycles, safes, watches, jewelry, typewriters, or thousands of other articles, can be met at once by the insertion of a suitable advertisement in the morning Astorian.

To secure help of any sort, or situation of any kind, to find lost articles, to secure board or boarders, lodging or lodgers, borrow money, obtain any kind of security; any of these wants may be supplied by using the "Want" columns of The Morning Astorian.

Rates For Classified or "Want" Advertisements

ONE INSERTION ONE CENT A WORD
Count Six Words to a Line.

THREE LINES THREE DAYS, 30 CENTS
30 Cents a line a week.

"SITUATION WANTED"

For the benefit of persons out of employment, ads under the head of "Situation Wanted" will be printed three days free of charge.

WANTED.

WANTED—100 LBS. CLEAN RAGS. Address "C." Astorian Office.

WANTED—FURNISHED HOUSE OR suit of housekeeping rooms for the summer. Address, Manager, Warren Packing Co. 6-17-tf.

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—BROWN BEAD PURSE; Finder enquire Astorian Office.

LOST—A SMALL MESH GILL-NET; new; between Miller Sands and Jetty, on Tuesday morning last; belongs to Nick Kereage, Pillar Rock Cannery. Reward, \$10. 6-12-1wk.

MUSIC TEACHER.

WANTED—THREE MUSIC PUPILS. Inquire at Astorian office.

MANDOLIN LESSONS GIVEN—MRS. C. D. Stewart, 127 Seventh street.

HELP WANTED.

BRANCH MANAGERS WANTED; \$20 cash weekly; live at home; experience unnecessary; no canvassing; enclose stamp for particulars. Aluminum Hanger Co., Chetfield, Minn. 6-5-30t.

BOARDING.

NICE ROOMS AND BOARD FOR GENTLEMAN and wife or single.—Enquire Astorian Office. 4-25-tf

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—FURNITURE, STOVES, stationery, novelties, at your own price. Forced to quit business on 30th inst. Astoria Com. & Auction Co., 365 Commercial street.

FOR SALE—NINE HOUSEKEEPING and furnished rooms; centrally located; for sale cheap; rent \$15. Inquire 474 Commercial street. 6-20-7t.

NOTICE FOR PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR CLEARING LAND.

Bids are hereby asked by the Astoria Water Commission. First:—For slashing and burning the brush and standing timber on about eleven acres of land.

Second:—For clearing said land of all brush, trees, logs and stumps and burning same.

Bids to be filed with clerk of the Water Commission at City Hall by noon, June 23, 1906.

Proposals to be accompanied by certified check of 5 per cent of amount of bid. Plans and specifications may be procured at superintendent's office.

Right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

G. W. LOUNSBERRY, Clerk.

PROPOSALS WANTED.

Treasury Department, office of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, June 19, 1906. Sealed proposals will be received at this office until noon of June 26, 1906, to furnish miscellaneous supplies for use of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service at Columbia River Quarantine, Astoria, Oregon, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907. Schedules and further information may be obtained upon ap-

plication to the undersigned. FRANK H. McKEON, Assistant Surgeon, P. H. and M. H. S. In command of Columbia River Quarantine Station.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW. CHAS. H. ABERCROMBIE, Attorney-at-Law. General Practitioner. Notary Public. Rooms 35-36—Phone Main 2951. Page Block, Cor. Commercial & 12th St.

OSTEOPATHISTS.

DR. RHODA C. HICKS, OSTEOPATH. Office Mansel Bld. Phone Black 2045. 678 Commercial St., Astoria, Ore.

DENTISTS.

DR. T. L. BALL, DENTIST. 524 Commercial St. Astoria Oregon.

DR. VAUGHAN, DENTIST. Pythian Building, Astoria, Oregon.

Dr. W. C. LOGAN, DENTIST. 78 Commercial St., Shanahan Building

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

HOTELS

HOTEL PORTLAND. Finest Hotel in the Northwest. PORTLAND, ORE.

LAUNDRIES.

The Troy Laundry

The only white labor laundry in the city. Does the best work at reasonable prices and is in every way worthy of your patronage.

10th and DUANE Sts., Phone 1991.

RESTAURANTS.

Mon Fong Restaurant

Noodles and Chop Suey.

MEALS OF ALL KINDS OPEN DAY AND NIGHT 74 EIGHTH STREET

FIRST-CLASS MEAL

for 15c; nice cake, coffee, pie, or doughnuts, 5c, at U. S. Restaurant. 434 Bond St.

BEST 15 CENT MEAL.

You can always find the best 15-cent meal in the city at the Rising Sun Restaurant. 612 Commercial St.

HOUSE MOVERS.

FREDRECKSON BROS.—We make a specialty of house moving, carpenters, contractors, general jobbing; prompt attention to all orders. Corner Tenth and

WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

New La Tosca 263 ASTOR STREET.

I. N. VANCIL & CO, CHOICE WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

Furnished Rooms, Day or Night. LOGGERS' HOME.

ASTORIA, OREGON.

Eagle Concert Hall [320 Astor St.]

The leading amusement house.

P. A. PETERSON, Prop.

Agency for Edison Phonographs and Gold Moulded Records.

THE SAVOY

Popular Concert Hall.

Good music. All are welcome. Corner Seventh and Astor.

THE CHINOOK BAR

416 BOND ST.,

ASTORIA, OREGON

Carries the Finest Line of

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

CALL AND SEE US

CITY NOTICES.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria has declared its determination and intention to improve Grand avenue, from the west line of Eleventh street to the east line of Sixth street on the established grade thereof, and to the full width thereof. Said improvement shall be made by grading said street to the full width thereof, and to the established grade and by constructing sidewalks 8 feet wide on both sides of said street, and by macadamizing said street from curb to curb, with crushed rock to the depth of 9 inches with the construction of gutters on each side of the street.

All material used shall be good, sound red or yellow fir or lumber, and the decking on the sidewalks shall be two-inch lumber.

In matters of detail said improvement shall be constructed according to the plans and specifications therefor to be after provided and general ordinance No. 1901 and any matter of construction and prepared by the City Surveyor as herein drainage found necessary to make the improvement safe or substantial shall be done by the contractor, whether speci-

fied or not, without extra charge.

The City Surveyor has been directed to make and file with the Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria, plans and specifications for the construction of said improvement and estimates of the costs and expenses thereof.

That the costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises benefitted by the same which said lots, lands and premises are included in the special assessment district including all lots, lands and premises so benefitted to-wit:

Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8 in each of blocks 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75, and lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 in each of blocks 86, 87, 88, 89, 90 all in that part of the City of Astoria as laid out and recorded by John McClure, and extended by Cyrus Olney in Clatsop County, State of Oregon.

OLOF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria has declared its determination and intention to improve Eleventh street from the south line of Franklin avenue to the north line of Harrison avenue. Said improvement shall be made by grading said street to the established grade with a sub-grade of 9 inches below the established grade, with a 12-inch crown from curb to curb, and by constructing cement sidewalks on both sides of the street, five feet in width, with a 6-inch cement curb, and that a two-foot park space between the property line and the outer edge of the sidewalks, and with a park space of three feet between the inner edge of the sidewalks and the inner edge of the curb, and by filling in and macadamizing said street from gutter to gutter with crushed rock to the depth of 9 inches, with a 12-inch crown in the center.

In matters of detail said improvement shall be constructed according to the plans and specifications therefor to be prepared by the City Surveyor as hereinafter provided and general ordinance No. 1901 and any matter of construction and drainage found necessary to make the improvement safe or substantial shall be done by the contractor whether specified or not, without extra charge.

The City Surveyor has been directed to make and file with the Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria, plans and specifications for the construction of said improvement and estimates of the costs and expenses thereof.

That the costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises benefitted by the same which said lots, lands and premises are included in the special assessment district including all lots, lands and remises so benefitted to-wit:

Lots 1, 2, 3, 12, 13 and 14, and W. 1-2 of lot 4, and W. 1-2 of lot 11 all in block 70; lots 1, 2, 3, 12, 13, 14, W. 1-2 of lot 4, and W. 1-2 of lot 11 in block 91; lots 3, 4, 5 and 6 in block 71, and lots 3, 4, 5 and 6 in block 90, all in that part of the City of Astoria, as laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney, in Clatsop County, State of Oregon.

OLOF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria has declared its determination and intention to improve Kensington avenue, from a point 10 feet east of the center line of Eighth street to the west line of Eleventh street, excepting the south half of the street between Eighth and Ninth streets. Said improvement shall be made by grading said street to the established grade to the width of 25 feet through the center thereof.

In matters of detail said improvement shall be constructed according to the plans and specifications therefor to be prepared by the City Surveyor as hereinafter provided and general ordinance No. 1901 and any matter of construction and drainage found necessary to make the improvement safe or substantial shall be done by the contractor whether specified or not, without extra charge.

The City Surveyor has been directed to make and file with the Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria plans and specifications for the construction of said improvement and estimates of the costs and expenses thereof.

That the costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises benefitted by the same, which said lots, lands and premises are included in the special assessment district including all lots, lands and premises so benefitted to-wit:

Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8 in block 120; lots 5, 6, 7 and 8 in block 119; lots 5, 6, 7 and 8 in block 118; lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 in block 137, and lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 in block 136, all in that part of the City of Astoria, as laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney, in Clatsop County, State of Oregon.

OLOF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.